

Grand Jury to Hear Evidence Today in Mary P. Meyer Death

By George Eagle
Staff Reporter

The United States Attorney's office for the District decided yesterday to present its case against Raymond Crump Jr., charged with the murder of Mary Pinchot Meyer, to a grand jury today in a departure from usual procedure.

Principal Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles T. Dunnean said the routine for homicide cases was to wait for findings of a coroner's inquest, but the United States Attorney is not bound by such procedure.

Duncan would not say why evidence will be presented to a grand jury this morning, although it was reported that a quick indictment and speedy trial for Crump were sought.

The disclosure of the prosecution's stepped-up timetable came as a simple, half-hour funeral service was held for Mrs. Meyer on what would have been her 44th birthday yesterday in the Bethlehem Chapel of Washington Cathedral. About 300 persons attended.

Mrs. Meyer, a Georgetown artist and friend of Mrs. John F. Kennedy, was shot to death Monday while strolling along the towpath of the

C&O Canal. Crump, father of five children, was arrested nearby shortly afterward.

He is being held without bail. His case was continued by U.S. Commissioner Sam Wertlieb until Oct. 23 to give Crump time to obtain counsel and for a coroner's inquest to be scheduled.

In a six-minute funeral oration the Right Rev. Paul Moore Jr., Suffragan Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington and a friend of Mrs. Meyer, said everyone in the Chapel wanted to know "why and how such a terrible thing has happened."

"The answer must lie somewhere in the sin and sickness of the whole world . . . somewhere perhaps in a pattern invisible to anybody else except God Himself," he said.

Bishop Moore spoke of Mrs. Meyer's "honesty, her friendship, her rare sensitivity, that beauty which walked with her and which flowed from her into each of our lives."

In leading prayers after the oration, Bishop Moore asked for prayers for "that poor demented soul who made this happen."

Those at the service included Mrs. Meyer's immediate family: her mother,

Mrs. Amos Pinchot of New York; her sons, Quentin, 18, and Mark, 14, and brother and sister, Gifford Pinchot of Miami and Mrs. Benjamin Bradlee of Washington. Mrs. Meyer's former husband, Cord Meyer Jr., also attended.

Honorary pallbearers were Gifford Pinchot, Bradlee, James Angleton, Wistar Janney, William Walton, David Middleton, Philip Stern, Samuel J. Lanahan and Kenneth Noland. Walton, chairman of the Fine Arts Commission, and Noland are painters.

Others who attended included Mme. Herve Alphand, wife of the French Ambassador; writers Arthur Schlesinger Jr. and Theodore White; presidential assistant McGeorge Bundy, Mrs. Sam-

uel J. Lanahan, Washington civic leader and politician and a former roommate of Mrs. Meyer at Vassar College, and Katharine M. Graham, president of The Washington Post Co.

Private graveside services

will be held today in the burial ground of the Pinchot family property in Milford, Pa.